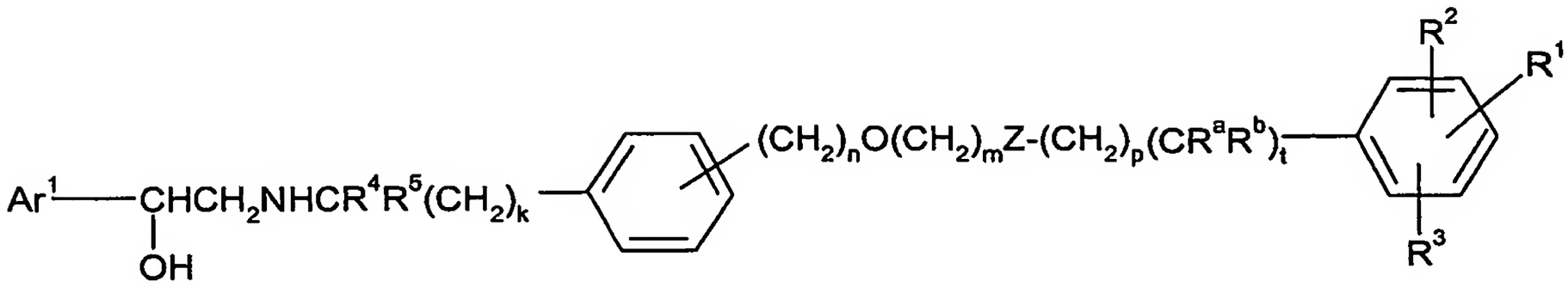
Claims:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

or a salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein:

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, XCO_2R^8, $-XC(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)R^7$, $-XNR^6C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)NC(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6SO_2R^7$, $-XSO_2NR^9R^{10}$, XSR^6, $XSOR^6$, XSO_2R^6, $-XNR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)OR^7$,
or R^1 is selected from -X-aryl, -X-hetaryl, or -X-(aryloxy), each optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, $-NR^6C(O)R^7$, SR^6, SOR^6, $-SO_2R^6$, $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-CO_2R^8$, $-NR^7R^8$, or hetaryl optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, or C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

X is $-(CH_2)_q-$ or C_{2-6} alkenylene;

q is an integer from 0 to 6, preferably 0 to 4;

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, hetaryl, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and R^6 and R^7 are each independently optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, $-NHC(O)(C_{1-6}$alkyl), $-SO_2(C_{1-6}$alkyl), $-SO_2$(aryl), $-CO_2H$, and $-CO_2(C_{1-4}$alkyl), $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_{1-6}$alkyl), aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, aryl(C_{2-6}alkenyl)-,

aryl(C_{2-6}alkynyl)-, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, -$NHSO_2$aryl, -NH(hetarylC_{1-6}alkyl), -$NHSO_2$hetaryl, -$NHSO_2$(C_{1-6}alkyl), -NHC(O)aryl, or -NHC(O)hetaryl:

R^8 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and C_{3-7} cycloalkyl;

or R^7 and R^8, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6- or 7–membered nitrogen – containing ring;

R^9 and R^{10} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, hetaryl, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, or R^9 and R^{10} , together with the nitrogen to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6-, or 7- membered nitrogen containing ring; and R^9 and R^{10} are each optionally substituted by one or two groups independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

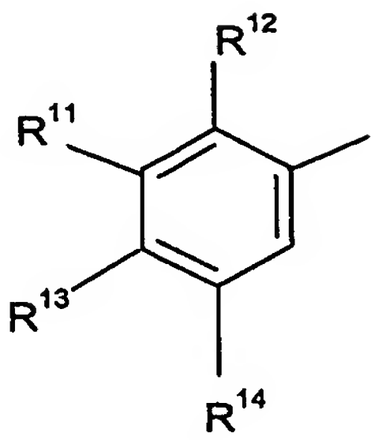
R^2 is selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, aryl, aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, C_{1-6}haloalkoxy, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, aryl, aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, C_{1-6}haloalkoxy, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl; and

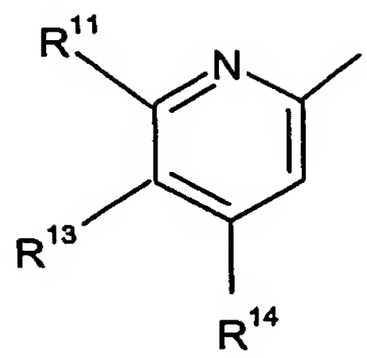
R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl with the proviso that the total number of carbon atoms in R^4 and R^5 is not more than 4;

R^a and R^b each independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl;

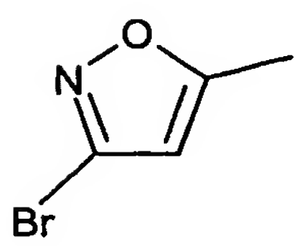
Ar^1 is a group selected from



(a)

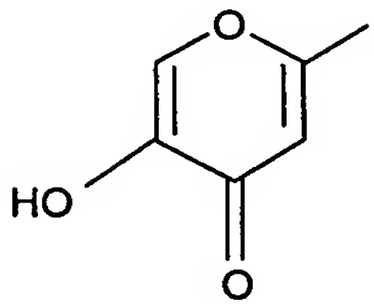


(b)



(c)

and



(d)

wherein R^{11} represents hydrogen, halogen, $-(CH_2)_rOR^{15}$, $-NR^{15}C(O)R^{16}$, $-NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$, $-SO_2NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-OC(O)R^{17}$ or $OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$,
and R^{12} represents hydrogen, halogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

or R^{11} represents $-NHR^{18}$ and R^{12} and $-NHR^{18}$ together form a 5- or 6- membered heterocyclic ring;

R^{13} represents hydrogen, halogen, $-OR^{15}$ or $-NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{14} represents hydrogen, halogen, haloC_{1-4} alkyl, $-OR^{15}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-OC(O)R^{17}$ or $OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{15} and R^{16} each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl, or in the groups $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-SO_2NR^{15}R^{16}$ and $-OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, R^{15} and R^{16} independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5-, 6- or 7- membered nitrogen-containing ring,

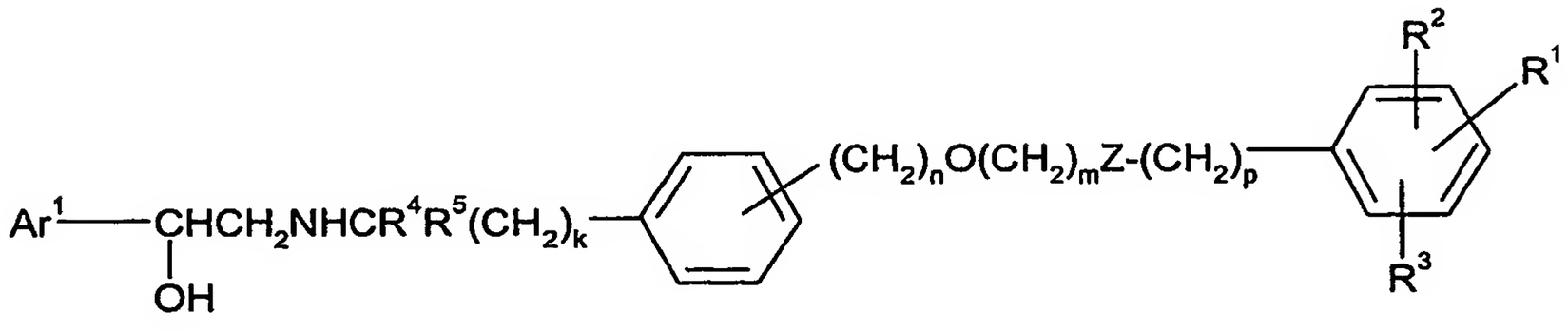
R^{17} represents an aryl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy or halo C_{1-4} alkyl; and

r is zero or an integer from 1 to 4;

Z is O, CH_2- or a single bond;

n is an integer of from 1 to 4;
m is zero or an integer of from 1 to 4;
p is zero or an integer of from 1 to 3;
k is an integer from 1 to 3; and
t is zero or 1.

2. A compound of formula (Ia):



(Ia)

or a salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein:

k is an integer from 1 to 3;
n is an integer of from 1 to 4;
m is an integer of from 2 to 4;
p is an integer of from 1 to 4;
Z is O or CH_2-;

R^1 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, halo, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, XCO_2R^8, $-XC(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)R^7$, $-XNR^6C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)NC(O)NR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6SO_2R^7$, $-XSO_2NR^9R^{10}$, XSR^6, $XSOR^6$, XSO_2R^6, $-XNR^7R^8$, $-XNR^6C(O)OR^7$,

or R^1 is selected from -X-aryl, -X-hetaryl, or -X-(aryloxy), each optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, $-NR^6C(O)R^7$, SR^6, SOR^6, $-SO_2R^6$, $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-CO_2R^8$, $-NR^7R^8$, or hetaryl optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, or C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

X is $-(CH_2)_q-$ or C_{2-6} alkenylene;

q is an integer from 0 to 6;

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, hetaryl, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and R^6 and R^7 are each independently optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, $-NHC(O)(C_{1-6}alkyl)$, $-SO_2(C_{1-6}alkyl)$, $-SO_2$(aryl), $-CO_2H$, and $-CO_2(C_{1-4}alkyl)$, $-NH_2$, $-NH(C_{1-6}alkyl)$, aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, aryl(C_{2-6}alkenyl)-, aryl(C_{2-6}alkynyl)-, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, $-NHSO_2$aryl, -NH(hetarylC_{1-6}alkyl), $-NHSO_2$hetaryl, $-NHSO_2(C_{1-6}alkyl)$, -NHC(O)aryl, or -NHC(O)hetaryl:

R^8 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and C_{3-7} cycloalkyl;

or R^7 and R^8, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered nitrogen – containing ring;

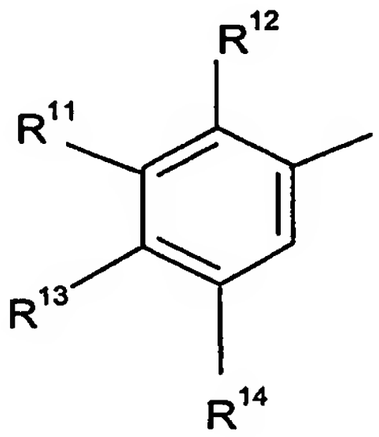
R^9 and R^{10} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, hetaryl, hetaryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)- and aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, or R^9 and R^{10}, together with the nitrogen to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6-, or 7- membered nitrogen containing ring; and R^9 and R^{10} are each optionally substituted by one or two groups independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, and C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

R^2 is selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, aryl, aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, C_{1-6}haloalkoxy, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl;

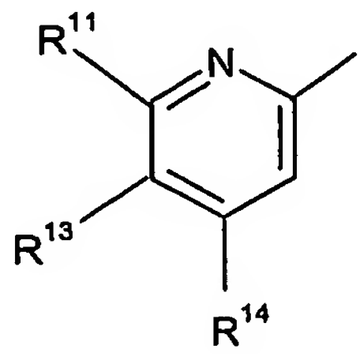
R^3 is selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, aryl, aryl(C_{1-6}alkyl)-, C_{1-6}haloalkoxy, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl with the proviso that the total number of carbon atoms in R^4 and R^5 is not more than 4;

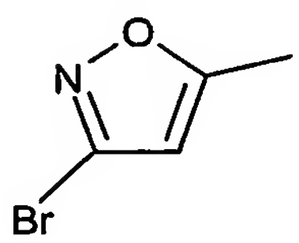
Ar^1 is a group selected from



(a)

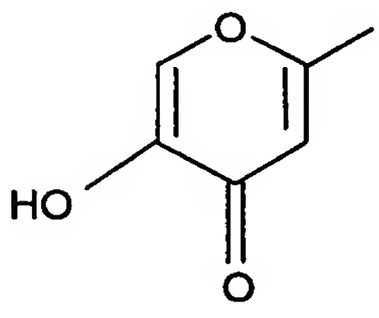


(b)



(c)

and



(d)

wherein R^{11} represents halogen, $-(CH_2)_rOR^{15}$, $-NR^{15}C(O)R^{16}$, $-NR^{15}SO_2R^{16}$, $-SO_2NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-OC(O)R^{17}$ or $OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$,
and R^{12} represents hydrogen, halogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

or R^{11} represents $-NHR^{18}$ and R^{12} and $-NHR^{18}$ together form a 5- or 6- membered heterocyclic ring;

R^{13} represents hydrogen, halogen, $-OR^{15}$ or $-NR^{15}R^{16}$;

R^{14} represents hydrogen, halogen, haloC_{1-4} alkyl, $-OR^{15}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-OC(O)R^{17}$ or $OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$

R^{15} and R^{16} each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl, or in the groups

$-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-SO_2NR^{15}R^{16}$ and $-OC(O)NR^{15}R^{16}$, R^{15} and R^{16} independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5-, 6- or 7- membered nitrogen-containing ring,

R^{17} represents an aryl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl,
hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy or halo C_{1-4} alkyl; and

r is zero or an integer from 1 to 4.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the group R^1 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxy, halo, $-NR^6C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-NR^6C(O)R^7$, $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-SOR^6$, $-SO_2R^6$, and $-NR^6SO_2R^7$ wherein R^6 and R^7 are as defined in claim 1 or claim 2.

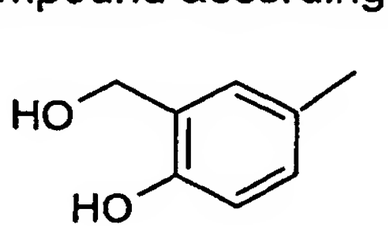
4. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 3 wherein R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, haloC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy and haloC_{1-6}alkoxy.

5. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4 wherein R^4 and R^5 each represent hydrogen.

6. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 5 wherein R^a and R^b each represent hydrogen.

7. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 6 wherein the group Ar^1 is selected from groups (a) and (b) as defined in claim 1.

8. A compound according to claim 7 wherein the group (a) is a group of formula (i):



(i)

9. A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(Benzyloxy)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-{(1*R*)-2-[(2-{3-[(Benzyloxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]-1-hydroxyethyl}-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
2-(Hydroxymethyl)-4-{(1*R*)-1-hydroxy-2-[(2-{3-[(3-phenylpropoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]ethyl}phenol;
2-(Hydroxymethyl)-4-{(1*R*)-1-hydroxy-2-[(2-{3-[(4-phenylbutoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]ethyl}phenol;
4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(3-{[3-(Benzyloxy)propoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(4-{[2-(Benzyloxy)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
2-(Hydroxymethyl)-4-{(1*R*)-1-hydroxy-2-[(2-{3-[(2-phenylethoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]ethyl}phenol;
4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(3-{[(2,6-Dichlorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1*R*)-1-Hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(2-methoxyphenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1*R*)-1-Hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1*R*)-1-Hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
3-[4-({3-[2-({(2R)-2-Hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)butyl]benzenesulfonamide;
3-{[2-({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)ethoxy]methyl}benzonitrile;
4-[(1R)-2-({2-[3-({2-[(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-[(1R)-2-({2-[3-({2-[(3-fluorobenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-[(1R)-2-({2-[3-({2-[(3,5-dimethylbenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({2-[(3-methoxybenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-{(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-[(2-{3-[(2-{[3-(trifluoromethoxy)benzyl]oxy}ethoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]ethyl}phenol;

4-((1R)-1-hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[4-(3-hydroxyphenyl)butoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[3-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)propyl]benzonitrile;

4-[4-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)butyl]benzonitrile;

3-[3-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)propyl]benzonitrile;

2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]propoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]phenol;

2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]oxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]phenol;

4-((1R)-1-hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-((1R)-1-hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[(4-hydroxybenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-((1R)-1-hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[3-(3-hydroxyphenyl)propoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({4-[4-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)phenyl]butoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({3-[4-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)phenyl]propoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({3-[3-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)phenyl]propoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({2-[(3-hydroxybenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-{(1R)-2-[(2-{3-[(2-{[3-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)benzyl]oxy}ethoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]-1-hydroxyethyl}-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-{(1R)-2-[(2-{3-[(2-{[3-(cyclopentylsulfinyl)benzyl]oxy}ethoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]-1-hydroxyethyl}-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({[3-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)benzyl]oxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1R)-2-({2-[3-({4-[3-(cyclopentylsulfinyl)phenyl]butoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

3-[4-({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)butyl]benzonitrile;

2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-{(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-[(2-{3-[(2-phenoxyethoxy)methyl]phenyl}ethyl)amino]ethyl}phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(3-fluorophenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(4-fluorophenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(2-fluorophenyl)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
3-[({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)methyl]benzonitrile;
4-[({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)methyl]benzonitrile;
2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]oxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]phenol;
2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-[(1R)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]oxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[(3,5-dimethylbenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[(2-fluorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[(3-fluorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
4-((1R)-2-{[2-(3-{[(4-fluorobenzyl)oxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;
3-[4-({3-[2-({(2R)-2-Hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)butyl]benzamide;
3-{[2-({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)ethoxy]methyl}benzamide;
3-[({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)methyl]benzamide;
4-[({3-[2-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)methyl]benzamide;
3-[2-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)ethyl]benzenesulfonamide;

3-[3-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)propyl]benzenesulfonamide;

4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(3-{[4-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)butoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

N-{3-[4-({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)butyl]phenyl}urea;

2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-((1*R*)-1-hydroxy-2-{[2-(3-{[2-(1-phenylethoxy)ethoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}ethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({2-[3-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

4-[(1*R*)-2-({2-[3-({4-[3-(cyclopentylsulfonyl)phenyl]butoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)-1-hydroxyethyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

2-(hydroxymethyl)-4-[(1*R*)-1-hydroxy-2-({2-[3-({4-[3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]butoxy}methyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]phenol;

4-((1*R*)-2-{[2-(3-{[3-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)propoxy]methyl}phenyl)ethyl]amino}-1-hydroxyethyl)-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol;

3-[({3-[2-({(2*R*)-2-Hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}amino)ethyl]benzyl}oxy)methyl]benzenesulfonamide.

or a salt, solvate or physiologically functional derivative thereof.

10. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a clinical condition in a mammal, such as a human, for which a selective β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is indicated, which comprises administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof.

11. A compound of formula (I), according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof for use in medical therapy.

12. A compound of formula (I), according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof for use in the

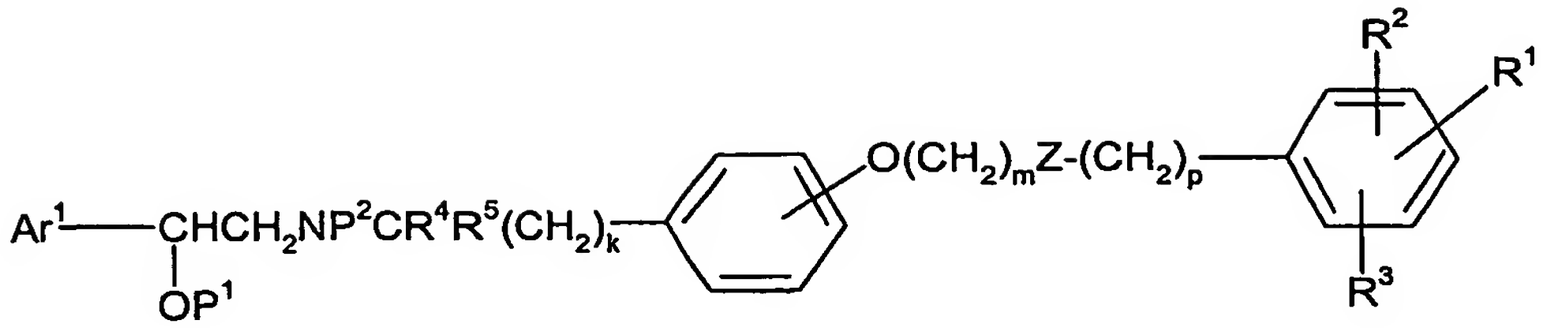
prophylaxis or treatment of a clinical condition for which a selective β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is indicated.

13.. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of formula (I), according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient, and optionally one or more other therapeutic ingredients.

14. The use of a compound of formula (I), according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis or treatment of a clinical condition for which a selective β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is indicated.

15. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to any of claims 1 to 9, or a salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof, which comprises:

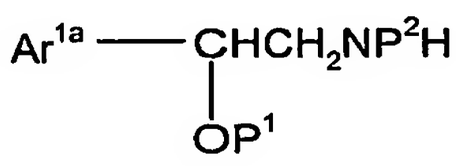
(a) deprotection of a protected intermediate, for example of formula (II):



(II)

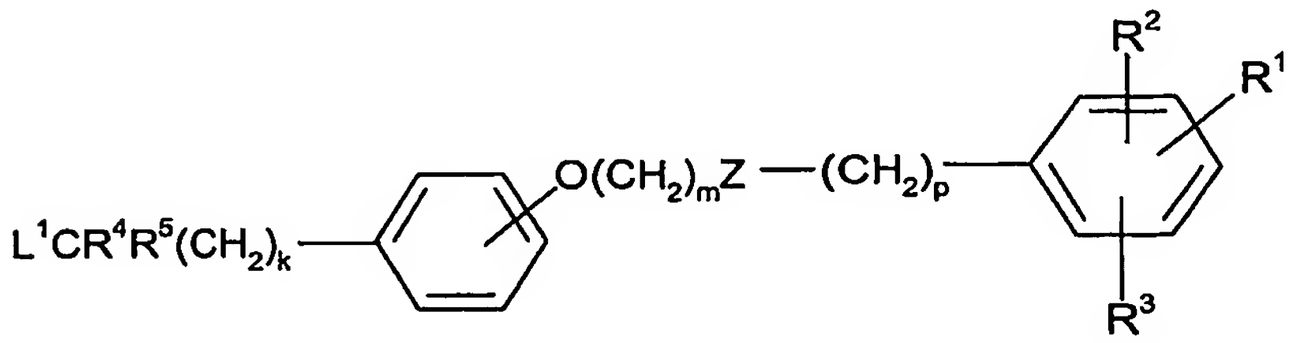
or a salt or solvate thereof, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, Z, k, m, n and p are as defined for the compound of formula (I), Ar^{1a} is Ar^1 or a protected form thereof and P^1 and P^2 each independently represents hydrogen or a protecting group provided that the compound of formula (II) contains at least one protecting group; or

(b) alkylation of an amine of formula (X)



(X)

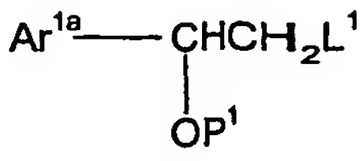
wherein Ar^{1a} is as hereinbefore defined P^2 and P^1 are each independently either hydrogen or a protecting group,
with a compound of formula (XI):



(XI)

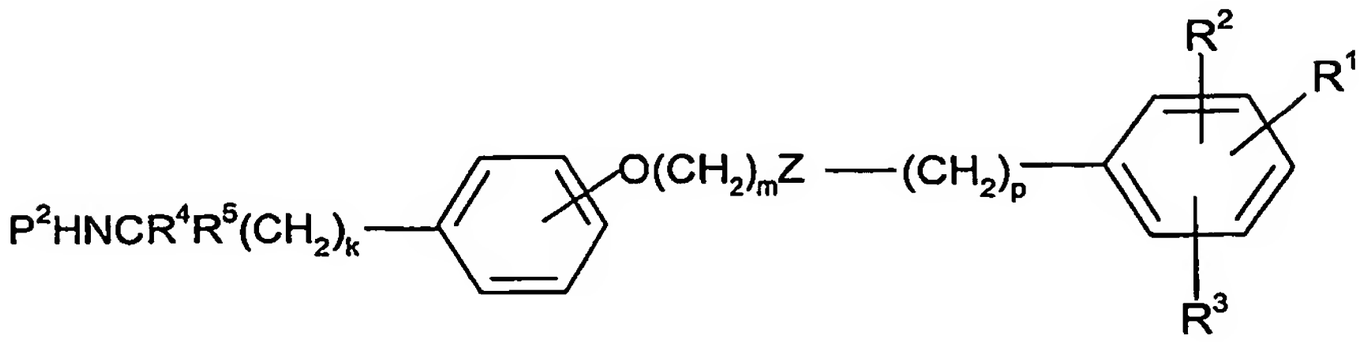
wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, Z, k, m, n and p are as defined for the compound of formula (I) and L^1 is a leaving group;

(c) reacting a compound of formula (XII):



(XII)

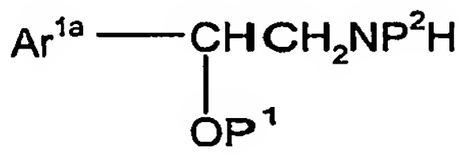
wherein Ar^1 and P^1 are as hereinbefore defined and L^1 is a leaving group, with an amine of formula (XIII):



(XIII)

or

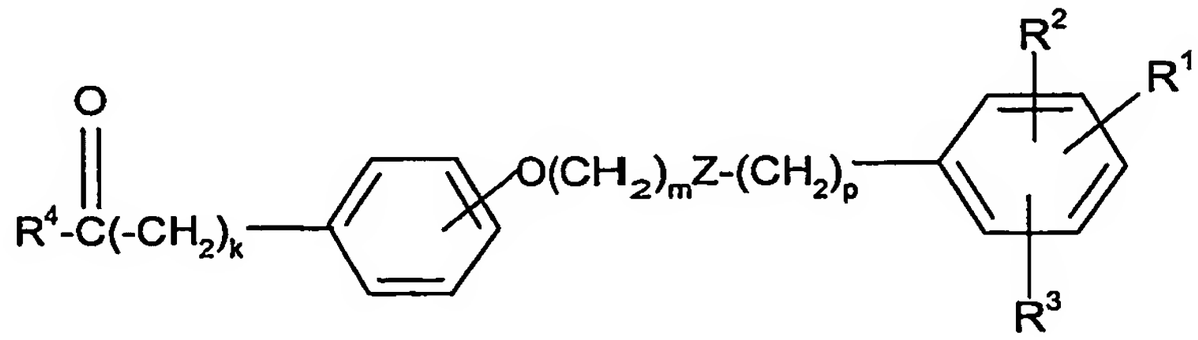
d) reacting a compound of formula (X):



(X)

as hereinbefore defined,

with a compound of formula (XIV):



(XIV)

under conditions suitable to effect reductive amination;

followed by the following steps in any order:

(i) optional removal of any protecting groups;

(ii) optional separation of an enantiomer from a mixture of enantiomers;

(iii) optional conversion of the product to a corresponding salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof.